

- No Hate Speech Movement

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- Today at 12:00 PM
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To

- ifudofhumanrights@yahoo.com

Version française en dessous



Dear IFUD Of Human Rights,

The inflow of people escaping war and persecution at the borders of European Union countries has generated a wave of solidarity that many of the No Hate Speech Movement activists and supporters have joined and supported. This solidarity is essential in order to recognise the necessity of helping those in distress and to affirm unity and humanity over indifference and disaster. This crisis is not new. For several years now too many people have died seeking refuge and protection. But the scale and impact of last weeks' events cannot leave us indifferent.

This is also being used to fuel hate speech and aggressive nationalism under the pretext of protecting national borders, "our" culture and civilisation, or even for sanitary reasons. As always, hate speech feeds prejudice; the statements of politicians and public figures who are against people seeking asylum are evidence that, as many of you posted in the campaign platform, "hating is easy, love takes courage". Please use the platform and the Hate Speech Watch to report solidarity and to make sure that hate speech does not become accepted or tolerated.

## TAKE ACTION: ONLINE AND OFFLINE

Online hate speech targeting migrants, asylum seekers and refugees has increased recently, increasing tensions and prejudice in a very challenging situation for the people seeking refuge in Europe. The No Hate Speech Movement is calling for a stronger solidarity towards those people forced to leave their homes.

**Be active online:** Report hate speech online through the Hate Speech Watch, and propose counter-narratives, expressions of solidarity, clarification of facts. As the German journalist, Anja Reschke put it: "The hate-writers must understand that this is not tolerated in society. Therefore, if you don't think that all refugees are parasites that should be chased away, burned or gassed, then you must clearly make it known. Stand up against it and open your mouth."

**Be active offline:** Support grassroots organisations that are offering essential help to asylum-seekers, especially in those countries where their situation is particularly dire. You can donate, you can share information about their work and you can volunteer yourself. [Here](#) is a list of some of them – please help us to complete it!

## ACTION DAY REPORT: EUROPEAN DAY FOR THE

## VICTIMS OF HATE CRIME

A group of CAMPAIGN activists took on preparation and implementation of the last action day, 22 July. They were supported by a large wide coalition of partner organisations, including the [European Union of Jewish Students](#), the [European Network Against Racism](#), the [European Youth Forum](#), [Phiren Amenca](#), [Respect Zone](#), the [Voice of Young Refugees in Europe](#) and many more.



The Action Day aimed to commemorate the victims of hate crime in Europe, to raise awareness on the links between hate speech and hate crime and to gain political support for the recognition of the European Day for Victims of Hate Crime. The results are very encouraging: the [petition](#) has reached 4535 signatures, and the 12 [personal testimonies](#) were well disseminated on social media. The social media presence and the out-reach of the Action Day was important and significant : Facebook posts reached over 20.000 in the action period and the engagement was close to 3000. The Action Day itself had a very remarkable outreach (35.000) as well as engagement (1000). There were 23 reports on the Hate Speech Watch in relation to the focus. This Action Day produced 21 new blog posts which came from partners, activists as well as submitted to the open call. The Action Day was also connected to the commemoration of the 2011 victims events in Oslo, with the involvement of [Anne Brasseur](#), President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and other local politicians.

## MEDIA SPEAK OUT AGAINST HATE SPEECH



The [Associazione Carta di Roma](#), with the support of the [European Federation of Journalists](#) and [Articolo 21](#), the National Federation of the Italian Press and the National Order of Journalists (Italy) has launched a campaign asking journalists and the public to take action against hate speech. This includes an [online petition against hate speech](#). National Italian television channels, such as TG2, and international organisations, like the UNHCR Italy, have already supported the petition which has reached more than 1000 supporters. The petition page has also an interesting discussion forum.

## UNESCO CONFERENCE ON YOUTH AND THE INTERNET



A UNESCO report released on Countering hate speech online is a very useful document for understanding and addressing hate speech; it also contains various references to the NHSM campaign.

The report was presented at the conference on Youth and the Internet in Paris, attended by several No Hate Speech Movement activists. A [video about the conference](#) was prepared by the NHSM participants.

## END OF THE BEGINNING - THE VIDEO

You can [watch](#) the video testimony of the No Hate Speech Evaluation Conference held in May 2015 Strasbourg. The conference was really the end of the beginning: the campaign will continue until the end of 2017. Find out how in the following issues to this newsletter.

## EURO-ARAB NETWORK FOR THE CAMPAIGN

A group of activists and participants in the [5<sup>th</sup> Euro-Arab Youth Forum](#) are setting up a network to promote and implement the No Hate Speech Movement campaign in the Euro-Arab context. The group, initiated by [APICE](#), a campaign partner, has opened a [Facebook page](#) to start with and is preparing its action day for the 21<sup>st</sup> September.

## WORD OF THE MOMENT: REFUGEE

**Refugee:** someone who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country." 1951 [Convention](#) on the status of Refugees.

"Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution" – [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)..

